

Please cancel claims 1-18, 30-39, and 40-56, without prejudice.

REMARKS

Entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 1-18, 30-39 and 40-56 have been canceled and claims 19-29 are pending.

No new matter is added by any of the amendments.

No further fees are believed necessary with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-0531.

Date: 12-18-2000

Respectfully submitted,

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